

Perez, Fahd hold talks

RIYADH, April 25 (R). — Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez, on the third leg of a Middle East tour to try to heal the split between oil producing countries over prices, held his first round of talks tonight with Crown Prince Fahd bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia. Senior Perez was originally scheduled to pay only a courtesy call on Prince Fahd at the royal palace, but this turned into a discussion lasting about 80 minutes. Prince Fahd told newsmen after the meeting: "We consider the president a friend of the Arab nation and particularly of Saudi Arabia. The talks with the president started today and by God's grace we will complete them tomorrow." He gave no further details.

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Peres: Israel might intervene in southern Lebanon

TEL AVIV, April 25 (AFP). — Israeli Defence Minister and caretaker premier Shimon Peres today said the entry of Syrian troops into south Lebanon would be one of three reasons that would provoke Israeli intervention in Lebanon. Israel would intervene in south Lebanon -- where fighting has been recently reported between Palestinians and rightist Lebanese -- if "Syrian forces descend south of the red line". Mr. Peres told a political meeting today at the port of Asqalan. He said two other actions would result in Israeli intervention: The return of Palestinian guerrillas near the Lebanon-Israeli border, and attacks on rightist Lebanese villages.

Palestinian command orders withdrawal from Beirut combat zone

TRUT, April 25 (Agencies). — Commander of Palestinian forces today ordered a withdrawal of "extremist elements" from the combat zone in a Beirut suburb where leftists and Palestinians clashed for the second consecutive day with troops of the Arab peace-keeping force here.

The fighting, in which tanks and machine-guns were used, was confined to an area of the middle Al Mazraa district controlled by a pro-Libyan Nasr faction.

The order went out to "all elements to withdraw from the streets and to evacuate the rooftops of buildings" in the area, which is near the Palestinian refugee camp, southern Beirut, following orders by Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to calm the situation in meetings with other command chiefs.

A communique issued here, Palestinian resistance said (CLAP), with the aid of elements from various Palestinian organisations, "has been responsible for implementing the order."

The Palestine Liberation Organisation command had already begun setting up control posts and patrols were out in area to ensure the "armed elements" (Palestinian and Lebanese "extremists") withdrew. The communique said the order had been agreed upon during two meetings today between the Palestinian command and a Lebanese ceasefire was also agreed, it added.

There was no sign of any attempt by the largely Syrian peace-keeping force to move in nearby Sabra, the biggest most populous Palestinian district of Beirut.

In Sabra gunmen were in doorways, many shops closed, and in one place hand-clad youth armed with M-16 rifle placed stones across a street -- the Beirut gun-ner's usual way of beginning a battle.

he battle was ostensibly off by the murder on Friday of two Syrian soldiers. Twenty-four people were killed including 18 soldiers of Arab peace-keeping force in the fighting reliable source said today.

here were reportedly also numerous wounded, the source said.

The provisional figures were the worst death toll since the Lebanese civil war ended in November.

Two armoured cars of the Arab force were also destroyed in the fighting, the same sources said.

The Phalangist Radio tonight reported that the 18 members of the peace-keeping force killed were six Saudi Arabians and 12 Syrians.

The dead also included 30 Palestinians and 11 members of the anti-Syrian Lebanese Nasr faction, the Phalangist Radio said. But totals of civilian dead and wounded were not known.

A Palestinian source confirmed that firing had completely ended in the combat zone tonight. A Palestinian official spokesman blamed "uncontrolled groups" for provoking clashes to disturb security which had recently been reinforced.

Roads in the area, especially Corniche Al Mazraa which is usually blocked by cars, were deserted as at the time of the civil war, some inhabitants of the area had taken temporary refuge in other parts of the city.

The clean-up campaign launched yesterday by the peace-keeping force did not appear to be a generalised offensive, PLO sources said today.

Syria gave a clear hint of its intentions with an editorial today in Al Baath, newspaper of the ruling Baath Party in Damascus, which complained about the number of factions in Lebanon.

"The era of the factions and fratricides is finished for ever," it declared.

Meanwhile, the climate created by the current outbreak of fighting was expected to disrupt plans for a popular rally on May 1 in memory of Lebanese leftist leader Kamal Jumblatt, assassinated in March.

In Washington, a State Department spokesman said today the U.S. was considering the possibility of equipping the Lebanese army but no decision has been taken yet.

According to the spokesman, Lebanese needs were being studied "in general terms", and there had been no specific request from Beirut.



WHITE HOUSE WELCOME -- His Majesty King Hussein, flanked by U.S. President Carter and Mrs. Carter, stands at attention during the playing of national anthems during welcoming ceremonies at the White House Monday. (AP wirephoto).

Bhutto may weather storm of opposition protest with army help

ISLAMABAD, April 25 (R). — Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, with a series of tough measures to blunt opposition agitation, seems to be riding out the worst crisis in his five-year leadership of Pakistan, diplomats said here today.

Last week, many diplomats were convinced the 49-year-old prime minister was on the way out as the opposition built up pressure to try to force him to resign.

"Now it looks like he's getting back on top, at least for the time being," said one Western diplomat.

Mr. Bhutto met the opposition threat head-on last week. He declared martial law in three of the principal opposition cities, imposed press censorship and then arrested the leadership of the defiant Pakistan National Alliance (PNA).

The result has been a sharp drop in the level of agitation and political violence since last Friday's blood-bath when about 40 people were killed in widespread clashes.

"The imposition of martial law made it clear to the opposition that Mr. Bhutto was not going to bow out without a fight," said one diplomatic analyst.

"It has had the effect of calming the situation as the opposition is not really keen to take on the army," the analyst said.

Mr. Bhutto clamped martial law on Karachi, Lahore and Hyderabad to head off opposition violence last Friday, when the nine-party PNA coalition had called a nationwide strike to press demands for his ouster and fresh elections.

The PNA claims Mr. Bhutto resorted to massive rigging in last month's general election to keep his Pakistan People Party (PPP) in power, and insists it will keep up the agitation until he steps down.

To keep up the confrontation, the new PNA high command yesterday called for a "long march" to Rawalpindi next Saturday to stage a sit-in outside Mr. Bhutto's official residence.

The PNA is hoping more than two million people will converge on Rawalpindi from all over the country.

Although the PNA said the mass demonstration should remain peaceful, observers said it could spark off another blood-bath.

They said the security forces were unlikely to allow the demonstrators anywhere near the prime minister's heavily-guarded house.

Gen. Tikka Khan, former army chief, was today elected to the senate, and informed sources said Mr. Bhutto was likely to appoint him as either defence or interior minister later this week.

A PNA lawyer today moved a petition in the Lahore high court to challenge the constitutionality of martial law.

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Time ripe for major push towards Geneva, Hussein, Carter agree

WASHINGTON, April 25 (R). — President Carter and His Majesty King Hussein today discussed the question of Palestinian representation in Middle East peace negotiations, one of the major stumbling blocks to an overall settlement.

The two men met in the White House oval office for 75 minutes in the first of three rounds of talks they are holding today and tomorrow.

"The two leaders concentrated on ways to advance the negotiating process in the Middle East," a White House statement said after the opening discussion.

"They discussed various ideas that have been put forward recently with regard to the question of Palestinian representation in the negotiations and how to resolve the Palestinian problem once those negotiations begin."

President Carter suggested the establishment of a "federal union" or "link" between Jordan and the Palestinians, presidential spokesman Jody Powell added.

"The two leaders also discussed the other two central elements of a settlement: territorial boundaries and the nature of peace."

King Hussein stressed the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination on their own land and the need for total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories, a member of the Jordanian delegation accompanying King Hussein told JNA.

It contended that the army had acted in a partisan manner as martial law administrators, by declaring opposition agitation unlawful.

The King also highlighted the central role of Jerusalem for permanent peace in the region and Arab rights to the holy city, he added.

President Carter said earlier this month that one possibility which could solve the question of the Palestinians in any renewed Geneva conference could be to give them representation in the Jordanian delegation.

King Hussein favours one Arab delegation -- instead of separate Syrian, Jordanian and Egyptian teams -- which would include Palestinians.

The White House said that in their discussions, President Carter and King Hussein agreed that the time is right for a major effort looking toward reconvening the Geneva conference in the second half of 1977.

The presidential spokesman described the meeting as frank and productive.

Before the talks began, Mr. Carter sounded a note of caution about the prospects for peace.

Welcoming the King, Mr. Carter said: "This year, 1977, is a special time, one when we face possible opportunities for making strides toward serious peace in the Middle East."

"But it would be a mistake to be too optimistic because of the serious nature of the divisions that have separated the countries in the eastern Mediterranean."

In an interview recorded in Amman last month and aired on U.S. television yesterday, the King himself said he was not optimistic about Middle East peace chances this year.

The meeting with King Hussein is the latest in a series Mr. Carter is holding with Middle East leaders. He has already met Israeli and Egyptian leaders and will see Syria's President Hafez Assad in Geneva next month.

Since taking office in January, Mr. Carter has consistently said that the opportunities for peace in the Middle East were better this year than they had been for some time.

As he began his talks with the King, he turned to the Jordanian leader and said: "We have a very good group of moderate leaders (in the Middle East) who tremendously want peace. If we fail this year, it's going to be very difficult to marshal an effort next year."

Mr. Carter, in welcoming King Hussein described him as a "staunch friend and permanent ally of the United States."

The president pointed out that King Hussein was celebrating the silver jubilee of his reign this year and praised what he termed the King's 25 years of enlightened leadership.

King Hussein praised Mr. Carter's commitment to morality, openness and honesty in government and said such an outlook would have a positive effect in foreign policy.

"In the long run, that which is moral is also the most practical and long-lasting," he said.

He also welcomed President Carter's interest in the Middle East, saying: "In the past we have suffered from a gap of communication between the United States and the Arab World... the Arab states earnestly desire mutually beneficial relations with the United States."

The King, who will leave Washington on Wednesday for New York, had a busy first day. After meeting the president, his schedule included lunch with Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, separate talks with Defence Secretary Harold Brown and envoys of Arab States, and a working dinner at the White House.

He arrived yesterday at the Columbia Broadcasting System television interview recorded at his Amman palace in which he said he was "far less optimistic, unfortunately" about peace coming to the Middle East this year.

"It doesn't appear to me that Israel is in a position to contribute all that much towards the establishment of peace," he said.

The United States needed time to assess the situation and "I think, at best, it's going to be a long, difficult process ahead," he added.

About Israel, he said, "I think the balance is in their favour immediately... or for the foreseeable future. They've got to get out of this for real mentality. Militarily, Israel is as strong as ever. On the other hand, we are probably weaker than we were in '73, even."

Israeli troops on the alert

TEL AVIV, April 25 (R). — Military officials said here today that the Israeli armed forces had increased their frontier alertness during the past few weeks following what they called increased activities involving the armies of Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

The officials said the extra alertness apparently included the call-up of Israeli reservists. Israeli Chief of Staff Lt-Gen. Mordechai Gur hinted in an interview last Friday that Israel was concerned about developments in the three neighbouring Arab countries, which it was following very closely.

The Israeli officials said today that the Egyptian armed forces were continuing intensive training they started six weeks ago.

The Israelis said the Jordanians had redeployed their army and that the Syrian army in Lebanon had been reorganised.

PARIS, April 25 (R). — Egyptian Vice President Husni Mubarak today handed a message from President Anwar Sadat to President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, which he said, mainly dealt with the Egyptian leader's recent visit to the United States.

"President Sadat found President Carter had a deep understanding of the Arab viewpoint which in the past was rarely taken into account by American presidents," he told reporters on leaving the Elysee presidential palace.

Referring to President Sadat's message to the French leader, he said: "This message essentially deals with the results of President Sadat's visit to the United States."

He said President Giscard d'Estaing fully approved President Sadat's initiatives for peace in the Middle East. "He termed them 'excellent and very wise' and thinks they should bring about a peace agreement as soon as possible," Mr. Mubarak said.

President Giscard d'Estaing had reaffirmed it was necessary that a Palestinian state be set up, the Egyptian vice president added.

He arrived here last night from Tunis and later today meets Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud. He is scheduled to fly to Belgrade tomorrow and later is due to visit Bucharest, Egyptian officials said.

Ministry officials indicated during the weekend that failure to renew the permit would probably be considered a technical error not meriting prosecution.

Political sources said they expected further allegations of financial irregularities against rival political leaders during the election campaign.

Mr. Eban has admitted that he has accounts in the United States but has denied that he broke the country's stringent foreign currency laws -- an offence that forced Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to step down earlier this month.

Mr. Eban, in charge of foreign affairs from 1966 to 1974, said he received written permission from the Finance Ministry to hold accounts abroad. The ministry sources said it could take several days to find a letter authorising his foreign currency holdings.

Mr. Eban, 62, number three in Israel's ruling Labour Party, said that the permit for the accounts was issued in 1967. It had been due for renewal in 1975 but he had failed to apply for it.

Mubarak hands Giscard message from Sadat

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Mr. Abba Eban

Owen quoted telling Fahmi: EC prepared to mount Mideast peace initiative next autumn

BRUXELLES, April 25 (R). — The nine nations of the European Community (EEC) are prepared to mount a Middle East peace initiative in the autumn of this year, British Foreign Secretary David Owen quoted as telling an Egyptian leader today.

British sources said that during a two-and-a-half hour meeting with Egyptian Foreign Minister Ismail Fahmi, Dr. Owen said the time was ripe for such a move at present.

He stressed his belief that it was of overriding importance for some movement towards a Middle East peace settlement to be initiated in the autumn.

Dr. Owen told Mr. Fahmi that the Carter administration was likely to take a powerful and consistent lead in trying to achieve a settlement and that the EEC could play a supporting role at the right time, the sources said.

Talks with Mr. Fahmi were "very good", Dr. Owen said. Subjects covered included Southern Africa, the Horn of Africa, insurgency in Zaïre, and the

role of the Soviet Union in Africa as well as the Middle East, he added.

Egypt has been strongly critical of Soviet activity in Africa.

Dr. Owen arrived here last night for a two-day visit, his first to Egypt since he became foreign secretary in February.

Before the two ministers start their talks, they signed an agreement to prevent dual taxation between Egypt and Britain.

The agreement, applicable to investments and individual income, will remove a potential barrier to the growth of bilateral trade and investment, officials here said.

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Managing Editor:
Jerab Tuhij

Deputy Managing Editor:
Bassam Rifai

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Tel. 67171/2/3/4 - Cable: JORTIMES - Telex: 1487 (JORTIMES)

Sin of omission?

President Carter shown a better understanding of the Middle East problem than his predecessors at the White House. He has tempered his support for the right of Israel to exist and to have "defensible borders" with the assertion that there has to be a homeland for the Palestinians and that peace would involve "substantial withdrawal of Israel's control" of the occupied territories.

Yet the Palestinian problem remains third on his list of priorities. Also, the precise nature of the provisions that have to be made for the Palestinians remains unclear. Where is this homeland to be? Why not spell out that the natural place is in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip?

It is very well to say that the question must be settled among the parties concerned in the Middle East -- with the U.S. acting as a catalyst to speed up the process of negotiations -- yet what does that amount to?

Is Mr. Carter suggesting -- euphemisms aside for the moment -- that Israel has the right to decide whether to annex occupied Arab territory as it sees fit, depending on how the results of the May general elections turn out? The hand of any future Israeli government is going to be forced by the mandate it receives at the polls. No matter how democratic the process may be for Israelis, the Arabs are not being consulted in the matter.

How far can any Israeli government go against election promises and how can it retract concessions made in the heat of the battle for Knesset seats when trying to come to terms with the demands of sobering reality afterwards and in attempting to strike a balance between the dictates of the electorate and forces outside the country?

The time is running out when intervention by President Carter may be most effective. Not to become involved in dictating specifics of any solution sounds -- in abstraction -- like a commendable moral attitude. Yet a sin of omission could be costly at this time and might serve to sanction matters abhorrent to one's own moral principles and counter to one's own desires.

President Carter is not a man who shuns involvement; his statements on human rights are adequate proof of that.

Yet there is such a thing as making oneself heard too late.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Editorials in Jordanian newspapers Monday picked up subjects ranging from the local economic scene to the Israeli threats in southern Lebanon and His Majesty King Hussein's visit to Washington.

AL RA' comments on the meeting of the United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA), opened by His Highness Crown Prince Hassan. Prince Hassan, the paper says, introduced the commission to Jordan's best asset: human resources.

The men who drew up all our economic development plans and participated in the development plans of other neighbouring Arab countries are the best that Jordan has to offer.

The paper says that whereas some call this the "atomic age" or "the age of the elimination of colonialism" we can call it "the age of development" specially in the developing Third World. The paper also hails the "good spirit" which governs the conferees here in Amman.

AL DUSTOUR comments on King Hussein's fourth official visit to Washington over the past 20 years. King Hussein will reiterate in Washington the same ideas on the same issues:

Justice and peace for the Palestinians and the area, the paper says.

It adds that the complexity of the Palestinian problem does not stem from the inability to visualize solutions but from the inability of consecutive American administrations to act towards achieving a peace settlement which is mainly in the interest of the United States itself in the first place.

The paper goes on to say that it is up to Mr. Carter to act as "an independent president representing a state free of Zionist influence".

The real test for Mr. Carter's announced principles of justice, human rights and moral solidarity is the way he handles the Palestinian issue, the paper concludes.

AL SHA' warns against Israel's intentions as embodied in Mr. Peres' announcement concerning southern Lebanon. Peres said Sunday that Israel has three reasons to interfere there: In the event Syrian troops should cross the "red line" commandos presence in south Lebanon and the protection of Christian rightists there.

The paper says, "All Arab states must beware the Israeli danger and take the initiative to put all their capabilities at the disposal of the confrontation states" to face the danger.

NEWS FOCUS

New Indian government faces political, economic problems

By Michel Garin

NEW DELHI, April 25 (AFP). — Political and economic difficulties are shaping up for the new Indian government formed a month ago by Prime Minister Morarji Desai, 81.

The cabinet's decision a few days ago to organise elections of new assemblies in nine of India's 22 states where the Congress Party was routed in the recent national parliamentary election is meeting with sharp resistance. The nine states have Congress chief ministers.

The party of former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, now headed by Mr. Swaran Singh, is determined to keep its bases in the 19 states whose governments it still controls.

The Congress Party, which only retains 153 seats out of 527 in the lower house of parliament, contends that the state assemblies should only be re-elected early next year after completing their normal term.

Mr. Desai's Janata Party and members of his coalition government retort that the people showed they wanted a change when they swept the Congress majority out of parliament, and should be permitted to elect fresh state assemblies now.

Mr. Desai's cabinet, which has been discrete and prudent about its economic plans, must face new inflationary pressure and rising labour agitation. Workers are beginning to

show discontent again after having been deprived of the right of strike for 20 months under the state of emergency imposed by Mrs. Gandhi while their wages were frozen and their traditional year-end bonus with withheld.

Several thousand jute workers are on strike in Calcutta. More than 15,000 textile workers in Bombay have stopped work.

The strikers want their year-end bonus and an immediate raise.

The government will have to wrestle with four main causes of economic imbalance: Prices, which rose about 15 per cent in the last 12 months, insufficient investment, increased unemployment and accumulating foreign currency reserves.

Foreign Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee indicated a few days ago that the government would employ these reserves "prudently".

Manufacturers apparently are not discontented by Mr. Desai's rise to power.

He is considered favourable to free enterprise and foreign investment.

Industrialists fear above all a wave of strikes. Last Friday, Mr. G. D. Birla, a leading businessman, warned that increasingly frequent electricity cut-offs were paralysing factories.

Mexicans breed fast

Mexico's population is growing so fast that by the year 2000 it is likely to have doubled to 120 million. Less than 50 years ago it was a mere 10 million. One of the main problems facing the government because of this explosion is the drift from the country to the towns by the jobless and landless peasants.

By Rod Chapman

MEXICO CITY, (Gemin). — Mexico's population explosion has reached such proportions that a city for one million people would have to be created every six months until the end of the century if all the people are to be housed.

Even if the new generation of Mexicans restrict their families to the two children unit now seen as standard in many other countries, the population will nearly double to 120 million by the year 2000, according to a new medical study.

Mexico City, which is already estimated to contain some 12 million inhabitants, would then number 28-30 million, by the calculations of many experts.

The response of the planners is currently based on the understanding that official family-planning programmes urging "responsible parenthood" will probably only bring down the birth-rate growth from around 3.2 per cent to 2.5 per cent in the next 20 years.

Thus the planners are committed to producing ever more houses, schools and food to cater for the new millions. The new Mexican President, Jose Lopez Portillo, has called for an alliance for production, in which landowners, manufacturers and retailers are combining to produce more food and peg prices in an effort to feed the millions of undernourished.

The president has also called on the construction industry to continue building a new Mexico. But for every low price housing complex built in one of Mexico's cities, several shanty towns are springing up on the outskirts.

One of the main problems is that, despite the policies aimed at providing jobs for peasants and workers in their home areas, the drift from the fields to the towns has become irreversible. Many jobless and landless peasants prefer to take their chances as beggars or casual labourers in the towns rather than staying on in the country.

However, with the number of unemployed and underemployed currently around six million, there are few jobs available for those who make the exodus. The alternative, especially for those in poorer northern states such as Sonora, is to attempt illegal entry into the U.S., where there are an estimated six million illegal Mexican migrants.

An agrarian reform programme instituted by the last government showed that land redistribution is only a partial answer to the problem. There is simply not enough to go round, and tens-of-thousands of peasants are still without land and effectively without hope.

A peasant leader called recently for a mass education programme. Land redistribution was well and good, he said, but Mexico's peasants were destined to remain slaves

unless they were educated. The same thought has occurred to the trade unions. They have proposed a workers' university, in the form of centres which would provide secondary and college education for workers' children.

The present government has launched plans to combat illiteracy and provide state education for a broader sector of the population, but education officials admit that they do not have the money or the means to institute the plans as yet.

Mexicans receive free state education up to the secondary school stage, but there are not enough schools or teachers to cope with the rapidly expanding numbers of children.

A recent survey showed that over 1.5 million children did not have school places, that nearly eight million adults were illiterate and the average schooling of the worker came to only 3.5 years.

Many of the figures are redundant in the face of Mexico's economic problems. The availability of school places is immaterial to families whose children have to start work at a very early age to keep the family alive. Young children drop out of school to become

shoeshine boys, to sell chewing gum or to engage in a host of other activities common to streetlife in Mexican cities.

There are also claims that the present education system serves only to perpetuate injustices in Mexico's social system, that the students who achieve some degree of higher education and receive the grants are the sons of the rich. The leader of the parliamentary Socialist Party urged recently that, in the wake of a number of student demonstrations, the present university grants be suspended and new grants be allotted to the children of workers and peasants.

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ECONOSCOPE By Jawad Ahmad

White elephants are not gifts of the Magi

O. Henry was the United States' champion of satirical short stories. One of his notable ones is entitled "Gift of the Magi." It tells the story of a husband who sells his watch to buy a gold hair-pin for his wife who sells her hair to buy him a new watch-band. Well, it is a paradoxical situation where ends do not meet.

A similar situation arises in most of the Arab World countries where construction activity is at its peak. New huge and fancy apartment-complexes are constructed to meet the ends for customers who do not virtually exist.

On the other hand, we find many middle- and low-income groups who are looking for apartments or houses, but in vain. What each finds is an apartment which is way beyond his modest means.

In a nutshell, there is an ample supply of houses and apartments, and there is a brisk demand for them. Yet there is a housing problem.

This incompatibility between supply and demand for houses emanates from the misconception that houses are one homogeneous commodity. A landlord hears that there is demand for houses, he proceeds to construct fancy ones which his potential clients can neither afford to buy nor to rent.

Demand for houses must be broken down into different categories.

The first is the deluxe houses. There is an ample supply of these and the private sector can conveniently furnish whatever demand may exist for them.

The second is the middle-class or economical houses. There is a shortage of these, not because there are no potential buyers, but because the ones offered must be sold on a cash-on-delivery basis if not cash-before-delivery basis.

The buyers can afford to buy them provided payment is conveniently divided over long periods.

The solution of this situation demands a more responsive credit market. Commercial banks may find a lucrative market here, because middle-class consumers are, usually, the least sensitive to interest rates.

The third is the low-income housing. This is the crux of the problem of housing shortages in Jordan, in particular.

Suppliers are not willing to trade in them because they barely make any profit on them, given the high cost of construction.

The only hope to solve this problem lies in direct government housing schemes. Government can do this through its already existing housing bodies.

If we categorise demand properly, we will see less white elephants and less gifts of the O. Henry type.



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JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION		AMMAN AIRPORT		VOICE OF AMERICA	
Channel 3 & 6:	Channel 6:	Arrivals:	Departures:	GMT:	Feature:
6:00 Quran	7:30 News in Hebrew	8:30 Bangkok, Bahrain	8:00 Beirut	08:00 The Breakfast Show	Science in the News, News Summary
6:05 Cartoons	7:45 Varieties	8:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi	8:45 Beirut (MEA)	08:00 Regional and Topical Reports, VOA Current News Summary	08:30 News Roundup, Reports on Actualities, Opinion Analysis
6:30 Swiss family Robinson	8:30 Phyllis	11:00 Muscat, Abu Dhabi, Doha (GA)	10:30 Cairo	04:30 and 05:30 GMT: An informal presentation of popular music with feature reports and interviews, news to listeners' queries	20:00 Music USA (Jazz), VOA World Report
8:00 News in Arabic	9:00 Special Arabic programmes on both channels	11:15 Doha, Kuwait (BA)	11:00 Geneva, Brussels, Amsterdam	17:00 News Roundup, Reports on Actualities, Opinion Analysis, News 21:30 Summary	21:00 News Roundup, Reports on Actualities, Opinion Analysis, News 21:30 Summary
Channel 3:	10:00 News in English	11:15 Aleppo, Damascus (SA-A)	11:45 Athens (GA)		
8:50 Arts and hobbies	10:15 Cont. of special programme	11:45 Kuwait (KAC)	12:00 Agaba (SAA)		
9:00 Special programme		14:10 Agaba (SAA)	12:45 Kuwait (KAC)		
		14:45 Cairo	14:45 Damascus (SAA)		
		16:55 London	18:00 Bahrain, Bangkok, Abu Dhabi, Karachi		
		17:00 Paris, Rome	19:00 Jeddah		
		17:20 Copenhagen, Frankfurt	22:55 Doha, Muscat		
		18:00 Madrid, Athens	01:15 Dubai (Alitalia)		
		18:40 Beirut (MEA)			
RADIO JORDAN		BBC RADIO		USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS	
7:00 Morning melodies	15:00 Concert hour	GMT:	14:30 Talkabout	Ambulance (government)	Tel. 78111
7:30 News	16:00 Old favourites	05:00 Sarah Ward	15:00 Radio Newswire	Civil defence rescue	26331-4
7:40 News reports	16:30 Easy listening	05:45 The World Today	15:15 Outlook	Fire headquarters	22999
8:00 Sign off	17:00 Mail bag	06:00 News: Press Review	16:00 News: Commentary	First aid, fire, police	19
8:00 Pop session	17:45 Pop session	06:30 Folk and Country	16:45 The World Today	Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency)	26331-2
12:00 News summary	18:00 News summary	07:00 News: 24 hours	17:00 News	Municipal water services (emergency)	27111-3
13:05 Pop session	18:05 Arabs in history	07:30 News: 24 hours	17:00 News	Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	21111, 9777
14:00 News	18:20 News reports	07:45 The Iron Way	17:00 News	Airport information (ABA)	6699
14:10 Radio magazine	19:30 Sign off	08:00 News	17:00 News		
14:30 Special feature	19:00 News	08:15 Short Story	17:00 News		
		08:30 Composer and Interpreter	17:00 News		
		09:00 News: U.K. Press Review	17:00 News		
		09:15 The World Today	17:00 News		
		09:30 Financial News	17:00 News		
		10:15 Look Ahead	17:00 News		
		10:30 Frank Muir	17:00 News		
		11:00 News: News about Britain	17:00 News		
		11:15 A Musician Remembers	17:00 News		
		11:30 Sports International	17:00 News		
		12:00 Radio Newswire	17:00 News		
		12:15 The Pleasure's Yours	17:00 News		
		12:45 Sports Round-up	17:00 News		
		13:00 News: 24 hours	17:00 News		
		13:30 Sir Noel Coward	17:00 News		
		14:15 Report on Religion	17:00 News		
EMERGENCIES		Cultural Centres			
Doctors:	Mahatta (55453)	American Centre (USIS)	Tel. 41230		
Amman:	Fawzi (25024)	British Council	2642-4		
Saudi Dabbour (66650)	Jamil (57291)	French Cultural Centre	2700		
Nitham Nather (38435)		Goethe Institute	4100		
Idlib:		Soviet Cultural Centre	4000		
Ahmad Bishawi (3925)	Palestine	Amman Municipal Library	2611		
Ahmad Jahmani	Zarga:				
Zarga:	Abu Leil				
Ragham Abu Hamad	Truks:				
(3953)	Talal (25021)				
	Tower (21028)				
	Khayam (4154)				
	Nabha (63003)				
Pharmacies:					
Amman:					
Assima (37085)					

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مركز الصحافة

ECWA meet unanimously accepts PLO as full member

AMMAN (Agencies). — The United Nations Economic Commission for Western Asia (ECWA) unanimously decided to accept the Palestine Liberation Organisation as a full member at its meeting here Sunday.

The sources said the decision required the approval of the U.N. Economic and Social Council (Ecosoc) in New York.

The PLO is taking part in the fourth session of the commission, which opened here Sunday, as an observer. In addition, delegates from 12 Arab countries are attending the session as full members.

The commission also agreed to the participation of a number of non-member states in the current session as consultants. These are the Soviet Union, West Germany, Pakistan, Turkey, Czechoslovakia, Algeria, Romania, France, Finland, Egypt, Holland, the United States, Japan and Greece.

ce of coordinating regional economic and technical planning among member states.

Collective Security

A message from Mr. Gabriel van Laethem, Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs was read to the session.

Mr. van Laethem stressed the importance of continuing a dialogue between the rich and poor, especially as the economic situation in the West was still weak.



Prince Hassan: Coordination.

Prince Hassan Calls

For Coordination

His Highness Crown Prince Hassan, opening the session, called for coordination among ECWA member-states and international agencies specialised in social and economic development. ECWA should also benefit from the expertise of engineers, town and village planners and industrialists in the region, he continued.

The Crown Prince praised efforts by ECWA to reconstruct northern Lebanon and "ease the pain from which the Lebanese people have suffered."

Mr. van Laethem saw the Western Asian region as the most critical because it is going through an abrupt period of development.

This, in itself, has brought serious problems, for not only must the problem of underdevelopment be tackled, but also that of "ensuring a better distribution within the region of the means and opportunities for economic and social progress."

tribution within the region of the means and opportunities for economic and social progress."

Diversification

Touching upon the problem of developing an economy, which relies solely on oil, the ECWA official urged the creation of more diversified economies.

He considered the main tasks facing the countries of the region to be: "To diversify their economies, by laying the foundations for lasting and autonomous development, largely free from external subjections and constraints."

"To plan that development, seeking to integrate the social elements as harmoniously as possible, and thus to achieve growth which is balanced as regards regions and categories, taking into account the satisfaction of basic needs."

"To take advantage of the exceptional diversity of resources, needs and opportunities offered by the countries of the region to create exemplary cooperation among them."

He saw one of the main tasks facing the countries in the region as the reconstruction of war-shattered Lebanon.

Referring to his own organization, he stated that the regional economic commissions — like ECWA — had an important role to play as links between member-states and the United Nations. Ecosoc, he stated, will rely more heavily on the commissions "for the collection and dissemination of information and as executing agencies in the field of technical cooperation."

Problems Remain

The need for diversification was also a keynote of a speech delivered by Dr. Al Attar. He stressed that an economy that

relies on oil and mining to such an extent leaves itself open to the vicissitudes of the world market.

He drew a distinction between the high growth rates — an annual rate of over six per cent — and the problems facing the region, such as manpower and food shortages, which should be solved by adopting a policy of integrated development among all the countries of the region.

He mentioned the various projects that ECWA had undertaken, such as a pilot project of wheat production in east Jordan and a study of water resources in the period up to 1980, as well as a series of studies on energy, transport and housing.

The week-long session will discuss a number of subjects related to economic and social cooperation among member-states, as well as fixing ECWA's working priorities for the coming year.

The opening session was attended by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, a number of high-ranking government officials, ministers, the chief chamberlain and Arab and foreign ambassadors accredited to Jordan.

Dajani Elected Chairman

During the session's second meeting at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel Sunday afternoon, Minister of Industry and Commerce Dr. Najmeddine Dajani was elected chairman.

The commission resumed its meetings Monday morning to discuss a report on its activities over the past year.

The report included the committee's working plan for that period, the question of the brain drain from the region, the Euro-Arab dialogue and a project to set up a documentation centre. Also discussed was the establishment of a consultant group to help reconstructing Lebanon, in addition to coordination and cooperation between the commission and Arab and regional institutions and funds.

Brain Drain

At ECWA's meeting Monday evening, the Jordanian representative, referring to the brain drain, said that people do not only migrate abroad, but also among the region's countries. He suggested the question should be treated through regional cooperation and not on the basis of individual countries.

Others to speak at the evening session included representatives from Iraq, Oman, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and the PLO.



Premier Mudar Badran looks over some of the experimental installations for the potash project at Ghor Nmeira on the southeastern shore of the Dead Sea during a visit Monday. The project will produce one million tonnes of potash per year by 1981.

POPULATION JUMPS 3.4%

AMMAN (R). — The population of the East Bank of Jordan stood at 2,018,407 at the end of last year, according to official figures released here Sunday.

This represented an increase of 3.4 per cent compared with 1975.

The figure is made up of 1,026,282 males and 992,125 females. No figures for the population of the occupied West Bank were given.

U. of J. group to probe southern desert areas

AMMAN (JNA). — A group of professors and students at the Faculty of Economy and Commerce at the University of Jordan Tuesday start a six-day field study of social, economic, and educational conditions in the southern desert areas.

The study, conducted in cooperation with the Department

of Statistics, will cover 17 localities in Wadi Araba, Al Shara and the eastern desert area.

The Dean of the Faculty of Economy and Commerce, Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, who is heading the team, said a report will be submitted to the government on how to deal with the area's problems and provide services to the desert inhabitants.

A similar group prepared a report last year on conditions of inhabitants in the northern desert area.

These activities are part of the university's policy to increase cooperation between itself and the people, so that the university can effectively participate in the development effort.

Cereals meet opens

AMMAN (JNA). — His Highness Crown Prince Hassan Sunday opened a conference looking into ways of boosting quality and quantity of wheat and barley in rainfed and marginal areas.

He stated that Jordan had been able to invest large amounts of capital in its development projects — with agriculture receiving a fair proportion.

Dr. Gleun Anderson, Associate Director of the International Centre for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), the organisers of the conference, substituted for Nobel laureate Dr. Norman Borlaug, in giving the first paper. Dr. Anderson discussed the world food supply, hitting on three major points for the maintenance of food supply.

Population control was Dr. Anderson's first point. In Western Europe and the United States, population growth is very well under control, whereas in the other parts of the world it is going up very rapidly.

Modern education in technology was the second point. Much land is unexploited in many areas of the world.

Food storage was the third and last point. It is well known in the world that so long as there is low production, there is a high price for grain and vice versa. Prices should come to a certain maintained level. Better marketing systems should be followed and production should only fulfill needed requirements, he concluded.

CABINET OKAYS LAW ON DONATION OF HUMAN PARTS

AMMAN (JNA). — The Cabinet Sunday approved in principle a draft law for making use of parts of the human body for medical reasons.

The law, the first of its kind in Jordan, aims to legalise the donation of parts of the human body for humanitarian cases. Numerous transplants are currently being performed with success here.

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ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

GATT reports import curbing trend

GENEVA, April 25 (AFP). — The trend towards curbing imports and subsidising exports remains "very strong", the secretariat of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) said today in its annual report.

Last year, protectionist measures were fewer and of less consequence than might have been feared, in view of the difficult international trade climate, the report said.

It praised the manner in which governments continued

to face up to their collective responsibility and avoid a return to a protectionist era that would harm the world community as a whole.

Pressures for curbing imports and subsidising exports "remain very strong" at the moment.

The report said that world trade rose by a healthy 12 per cent to 980,000 million dollars last year, but the production upturn was only half as much and unemployment generally remained high.

WALL STREET REPORT

Prices suffered a sharp decline in fairly active trading Monday on the New York stock exchange, where the industrial average lost more than 12 points and fell back to its lowest level since January 1976.

Uncertainty about President Carter's energy programme was apparently the reason for this new decline, along with traditional investors' worries about inflation and higher interest rates.

Losers outnumbered gainers at the bell by a very wide 1,204 to 298 margin as most groups of shares closed on a weaker note. Chemical and department store issues were among the hardest hit, along with many blue chips and glamour stocks. Eastman Kodak, for example, lost four points to 60-1/4 in active trading, while General Electric and Dow Chemical both fell more than one dollar. Phillips Petroleum lost 4-1/2 to \$33 following the accident in one of its North Sea platforms "Ekofisk Bravo".

At the close, the industrial average shows at 914.60, a loss of 12.47 points; Transp at 232.03, a loss of 1.51; utilities at 107.39, a loss of 0.58. 20,450,000 shares changed hands, of which 4,210,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

The market fluctuated in interest due to uncertainty over future government's pay policy. The Ekofisk oil well blow-out also affected sentiment -- particularly oils, dealers said. At 15:00 the F.T. index was down three points at 419.3.

Petrolina led oils lower at 101-1/8 against 114 last Friday. Equity leaders also declined.

Government bonds showed net falls of 1/4 point among longer maturities after opening that much higher helped by bank base rate reductions. Some shorts, however, firmed around 7/8 point.

Gold and dollar stocks eased while Canadians were quietly mixed.

BP ended 22p off while Shell and Tricentrol lost 10p and 5p respectively. Courtaulds, Midland Bank, Beecham, Lucas, ICI, Barclays Bank and Elsons eased between 3p and 7p. Hawker continued firm adding 31p.

Rio Tinto Zinc initially rose to 244p on news that its application for dividend control exemption had been granted, but later dropped to 240. John Laing finished 4p down after results.

Price of gold closed in London Monday at \$149.75/oz.

McNamara re-appointed as World Bank president

WASHINGTON, April 25 (R). — The World Bank announced yesterday the re-appointment of Mr. Robert McNamara, president since 1968, to a third five-year term beginning April 1, 1978.

The announcement said Mr. McNamara, 60, had agreed to serve another term as president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, of the International Finance Corporation, and of the International Development Association.

A former director of the Ford Motor Company and secretary of defence during the build-up of the Vietnam war

under Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, Mr. McNamara has been an eloquent spokesman in the industrialised world for the needs of developing countries.

After the spiral of inflation that followed the oil price increases of 1973, he warned that the poorest nations of the world were the principal victims of inflation, and recommended that total lending by the inter-governmental World Bank be increased.

The World Bank said its executive directors were keenly aware of the great advances made by the bank in the field of development under Mr. McNamara's leadership and wanted to ensure continuing progress.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

* DAMASCUS, April 25 (R). — A senior Soviet delegation will arrive in Damascus shortly to exchange instruments of ratification of an economic and technical cooperation agreement signed during the visit of President Hafez Al Assad to Moscow last week. The agreement provides for Soviet help in carrying out several important projects in Syria, including the reclamation of 70,000 hectares of land for agriculture, development of the Latakia Port, extension of Syria's power network and the search for oil.

* PARIS, April 25 (R). — A new era of economic and political cooperation between Vietnam and the Western world opens today with Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Van Dong's official visit here, his first to the West since the end of the Vietnam war. President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing has ordered full red carpet treatment for the 71-year-old Hanoi leader who will be received here as a head of state. The four-day visit will set the seal on the reconciliation between France and its former Indochina colony and pave the way for large-scale Western aid to help Vietnam embark on agricultural and industrial development.

* TRIPOLI, April 25 (R). — The ministers of labour from Uganda, Ivory Coast, Gambia, Benin, Sierra Leone and Ghana have arrived here for the African Labour Ministers' Conference to open here today, the Arab Revolution News Agency of Libya, ARNA, reported today.

* KUWAIT, April 25 (R). — American companies would lose much of their Arab markets to competitors if they implemented proposed American legislation against co-operation with the Arab economic boycott of Israel, an official spokesman said here yesterday. "This legislation was passed as a result of Zionist initiatives in the United States," the spokesman said. Kuwait would not exempt any company, from whatever country, from the boycott regulations.

U.S. officials begin national campaign for Carter's energy saving programme

WASHINGTON, April 25 (R). — A small army of administration officials begins fanning out across the United States this week to convince Americans that President Carter's energy saving programme will be an economic bonanza for consumers.

According to the administration, low and moderate income families will get back more in tax rebates than they will spend on higher energy prices, including new petrol taxes.

President Carter, giving details of the programme last week, said: "As far as the consumers are concerned, those who conserve a substantial amount of energy will derive a substantial benefit."

But he added: "I can't certify today that every nickel of the taxes collected will be refunded to consumers."

Now officials have sent out the word that they are available for meetings throughout the country -- including radio and television talk-shows and general entertainment programmes like "The Dinah Shore Show" -- to put the energy proposals across to the people.

The most controversial part

of Mr. Carter's plan goes right to the heart of what is near and dear to millions of Americans -- the so-called "gas-guzzling" giants from Detroit.

In the world's most mobile society, big cars are part of the American way of life.

The sacrifice for many Americans will be the cherished belief in big cars, as Mr. James Schlesinger, the president's energy adviser, put it yesterday.

He told a television interviewer: "all of us will have to get used to using smaller automobiles," and added: "Large cars are not mentioned in the inalienable rights in the Declaration of Independence."

Mr. Schlesinger, interviewed on the CBS programme "Face the Nation," said the country would face serious energy shortages in the 1980s if the challenge was not faced now.

"We all know we can reduce the consumption of gasoline. It is a challenge," he said.

Despite the warnings that drivers of big, petrol-thirsty cars are going to be penalised through higher taxes, Americans are still buying the larger models produced by the big four manufacturers.

The latest models of two of the biggest and most luxurious American cars -- General Motors' Cadillac and Ford's Lincoln -- are attracting buyers as fast as the Detroit assembly lines can turn them out.

Under Mr. Carter's proposals, the extra tax on highly inefficient cars could go to nearly

2,500 dollars by 1985.

"I don't think general public is in a frame of mind to be afraid, although there are more requests about smaller engines," said one car sales manager.

Another dealer said: "There are too many people in the U.S. who are driving big cars and they're going to continue."

China's petrol production to be stepped up

PEKING, April 25 (AFP). — Mao Tse-tung's successor Chairman Hua Kuo-feng has personally revealed one of the main obstacles to the development of China's economy: The lack of scientific and technical workers and their insufficient proficiency.

He also announced that petroleum production in China would be stepped up.

The New China News Agency said Chairman Hua made these statements during a visit from April 17-19 to the Taching oil field and petrochemical complex in Heilunkiang (formerly Manchuria), the Chinese oil capital.

A national conference on industry, the first of its kind since 1949, opened in Taching on April 20.

The official media said Sunday that Chairman Hua spoke to researchers and technicians who had shown him round a scientific exhibition.

He told them: "We must carry out scientific experiments conscientiously and train more scientists and technicians. We must say that the number of scientists in our country is small and their level of proficiency not high enough. We must not rest on the laurels of what we have achieved."

Chairman Hua said Chiang Ching-kuang's gang of four radical leaders arrested last October was responsible for the poor situation in this field, and attacked their "interference and sabotage." He called for the elimination of "their noxious influence."

The Chinese leader also told the Taching Party Committee to provide more and more cadres and workers for the new oil finds in order to boost petroleum production.

China's current production is put by foreign experts at around 90 million tons, about 30 million of which comes from Taching.

New China said Chairman Hua recently "called on us to speed up the development of the petroleum industry." As a result, oil production was immediately boosted, notable in Taching itself which is one of the world's biggest oilfields.

The first phase of the "learn from Taching" conference lasted four days, from April 20-23, and will continue in Peking, New China reported last night.

The resumption of the conference in the capital had been expected but not officially announced. The agency gave no date for the start of the second stage which should be within the next few days.

A total of 7,000 representatives attended the first part of the conference which was presided over by Chairman Hua. Vice-Premier Li Hsien-shen, an economist, made the opening speech at the meeting where several members of the government including five vice-premiers were present.

Italy will only get IMF loan subject to stringent conditions

WASHINGTON, April 25 (R). — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) meets here in executive session today to discuss Italy's application to borrow the equivalent of 530 million dollars from the fund to help bolster its sagging economy.

Italy has been negotiating for the loan, which will be subject to stringent conditions, for several months.

International monetary sources said they do not expect Italy's application to run into any serious hurdles and the

loan is almost certain to be approved.

However they said it will be made clear to the Italian government that the conditions of the loan must be strictly adhered to.

The Italian government will not be able to draw the loan all at once, and the money will be dispensed in three separate portions. If the conditions agreed between the IMF and the Italian government are not met, then the fund reserves the right to refuse to disburse the next instalment.

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FORECAST FOR TUESDAY, APRIL 26, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you are eager for praise and encouragement, but it will be difficult to attain because others are too preoccupied with own affairs. Be more optimistic about the future.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Show that you are persevering and gain the goodwill of associates. Go to the right sources for the data you need.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Fine day to improve conditions at home in every way so that you stave off trouble in the future. Take health treatments.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You have to be very careful in motion today and thereby avoid possible accident. Show that you have wisdom.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make long-range plans that will give you added income in the future. Be happy with the one you love.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) You may find it difficult to aim your personal aims but don't be forceful with other once you don't know all the facts involved.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Study any drawbacks you have that could keep you from advancing and get rid of them. Think along more abundant lines.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may find it difficult to win some desire now, but be patient. Get together with friends during spare time and express happiness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Engage in some kind of public work that can add to your prestige. Exercise greater effort in vocational matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Study new outlets that could prove to be quite profitable in the future. Be more careful in dealing with strangers today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Handle routine duties early in the day for best results. Think of how to improve your position with your mate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your relationship with associates and try to improve it. Don't criticize others or you get into trouble.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You had better get working on constructive affairs early or you could lose out here it counts the most. Express happiness.

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TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

SWISS FAMILY ROBINSON: THE HAWK

Children are frightened by the appearance of hawk and family opposes his being shot down.

PHYLLIS: OFF THE BEACH

Phyllis tries to help reluctant vagabond regain normal and honourable life.

OUT AND ABOUT

CLUBS

Firas Wings Hotel, Jabbal Al Luweldah, Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE set menus daily for lunch, and a carte. Open 12-3 p.m. and 7-12 p.m. Specialty: steaks.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks for home, lunch or dinner. Jabbal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabbal Al Luweldah, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabbal Al Hussain, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21781. Also in Zarqa and Irbid.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

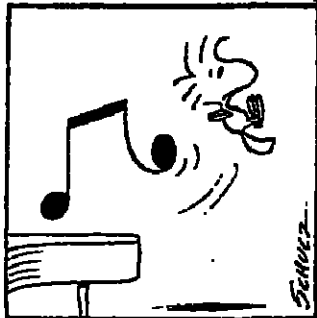
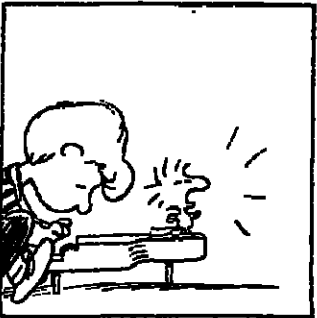
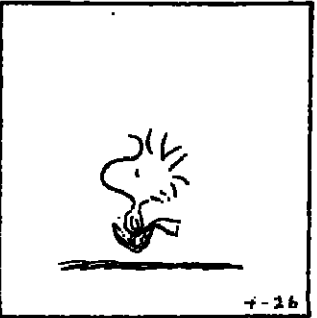
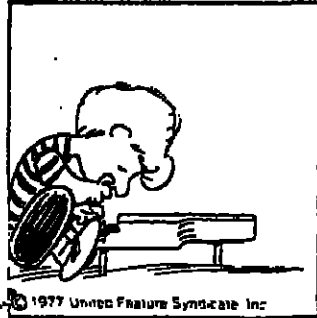
First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabbal Amman, near the Abilash School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service - order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT

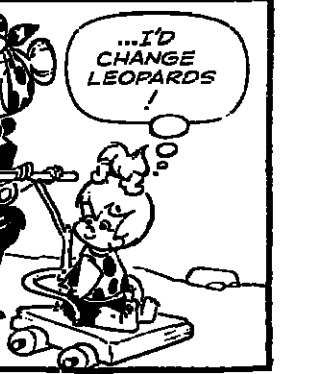
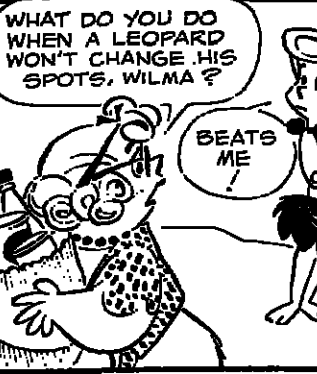
First Circle, Jabbal Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

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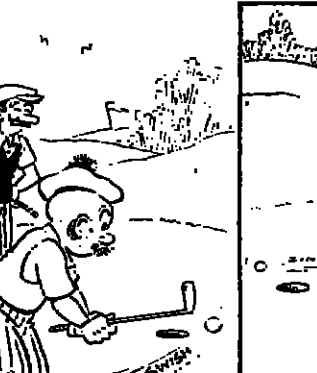
PEANUTS



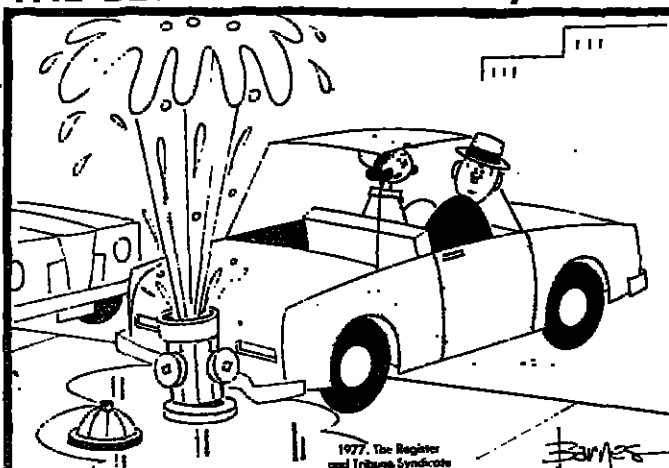
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MUTT AND JEFF



THE BETTER HALF. By Barnes



"Of course I don't drive as well as you do! I don't have me sitting next to me to advise me!"

GRAFFITI

MAN WITH MONEY TO BURN OFTEN MAKES ASH OF SELF



...HALLO! IS THIS 6771-2-3-4? I'D LIKE TO RESERVE A SPACE FOR AN AD IN THE JORDAN TIMES...

WORLD RECORDS

The longest beard preserved was that of Hans N. Langseth born 1846 in Norway, which measured 5.33 metres (17 ft.) at the time of his death in 1927 after 15 years residence in the United States. The beard was presented to the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. in 1967.

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



MUSIC AUTOMATICALLY TRANSCRIBED INTO MANUSCRIPT

This organ is fitted with a new device, developed in Scotland, which records every note played on a standard cassette tape for automatic transcription by computer into manuscript form.

The system electronically scans the keyboard twenty-times-a-second. This registers which keys are depressed and for how long -- recording the information on tape as a series of impulses.

The musician specifies the key and time signature and these are then included in the print-out which appears in the form of standard music manuscript.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

Q.1—As South, vulnerable with 70 on score you hold:
♠AKQ98532 ♥K7 ♦A8 ♣6
What is your opening bid?

A.—While this hand would not normally qualify for a forcing two-bid, we would tend to relax the requirements in this case. There is a danger that partner, with a smattering of useful values, won't keep the bidding alive. By opening two spades and rebidding the suit at every opportunity, you are unlikely to get too high and will alert your partner to slam possibilities.

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠107642 ♥AK7 ♦K85 ♣A6
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♦ Dble. Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—Your hand is too strong for a jump to four spades because your wealth of controls offers real slam possibilities. Your first step should be a cue-bid of four clubs. Your next action depends on partner's response.

Q.3—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠6 ♥KJ98752 ♦J8 ♣J62
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♥ Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♥ Pass
3 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—You have no story to tell other than hearts, so you should rebid your seven-card suit one more time. Although partner can't have more than one heart on this auction, it would be wrong for you to take a preference to a minor suit. If partner is really that strong in either minor, he is not barred from bidding again.

Q.4—East-West vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK872 ♥8 ♦QJ7 ♣K872
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♥ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
3 ♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—The hand will surely make at least six clubs. What you have to do is leave the maximum room for exploring grand slam chances, and the best way to do that is to fix the trump suit at the lowest level possible. A raise to four clubs fits the bill perfectly.

Q.5—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J7 ♥J ♦A8 ♣KJ1076542
What is your opening bid?

A.—Since you hold nothing in the majors, you want to make it as difficult as possible for the opponents to enter the bidding. Your hand qualifies for a preemptive bid, and we do not fault you if you chose to open three clubs. However, we would be prepared to forego the possibility that three no trump might be our best contract and go the whole hog with an opening bid of four clubs.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AKQJ6 ♥A6 ♦AJ52 ♣A8
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
2 ♦ Pass 2 NT Pass
3 ♦ Pass 3 ♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—Three no trump. Thus far, partner has promised nothing of value. You have eight tricks in your own hand at a no trump contract, and probably the same number in spades. It might be easier to make nine tricks at no trump than ten in the suit. If partner has a distributional hand, he can still correct to four spades.

Q.7—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠J43 ♥AK105 ♦KQ ♣AQ72
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♣ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—The normal call would be two no trump, to show your 19 points. However, that might not work out too well because of the doubleton king-queen of diamonds. We suggest a reverse to two hearts to see how partner reacts. If he rebids his spades, we would prefer a contract of four spades to three no trump.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

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IRRBAB

PIMSK

LAUMSY

RITTHY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: DON'T

(Answers tomorrow)

Sunday's Jumbles: DERBY BAGGY SONATA ALIGHT

Answer: Followed the band — for the medics — "AGES" (bandages)



PORTUGUESE ANNIVERSARY -- Portugal's Socialist Premier Mario Soares, wearing the traditional sash of the peasants of central Portugal, gestures during a party rally speech denouncing Communist farm and labour policies. The rally took place in a Lisbon bull ring Sunday and opened two days of celebrations marking the April 25, 1975, democratic revolution. (AP wirephoto)

Bad weather delays capping of damaged North Sea oil rig

STAVANGER, Norway April 25 (R). — High waves today forced American experts to postpone their hazardous task of capping an out-of-control North Sea well which has been gushing thousands of tonnes of crude oil daily since last Friday night.

But the Phillips Petroleum Company, operators of the Bravo Rig in Norway's Ekofisk oil field, said prospects of jamming a cap on the well appeared to be good.

It said the top of the production pipe was undamaged and a safety valve was also in place.

The repair work would require the tightening of about 20 bolts and installation of a new safety valve, the company said.

The well blow-out has posed a potentially major pollution problem for countries bordering on the North Sea.

The job of capping it has been made more dangerous by the chance that a spark could set off a big explosion of natural gas which is also spewing out with the oil.

Norwegian officials said the

laying of several kilometres of booms in the sea to try to corner some of the growing oil slick could begin soon.

The oil has been pouring out of the well-head at the rate of 4,000 tonnes daily since the blow-out occurred during maintenance work late Friday night.

Prof. Carl August Feischer, the Norwegian government's expert on international law, said yesterday that Phillips Petroleum Company, as operator, was solely responsible for damages that could be caused by the blow-out.

U.S. to pay \$40m debt to UNESCO

PARIS, April 25 (AFP). — The nearly \$40,000,000 United States debt to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation) looks like being settled soon, perhaps during the UNESCO Executive Council spring session which opened here today.

The sum covers the contributions the U.S. should have made in 1975 and 1976 to the UNESCO budget. The U.S. congress has now given the go-ahead for payment.

India assures Gromyko treaty with USSR holds

NEW DELHI, April 25 (Agencies). — Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko had an initial meeting today with Foreign Minister A.B. Vajpayee, following Mr. Gromyko's arrival here this afternoon on a three-day official visit.

Mr. Gromyko told reporters afterward: "It was a friendly, business-like conversation. Some of the basic questions of Indo-Soviet relations were discussed."

Mr. Vajpayee described the talk as "friendly and good", and said the atmosphere had been "cordial".

He said the question of the 1971 Indo-Soviet Friendship and Cooperation Treaty had been raised.

"Both sides", he said, "have affirmed their desire to maintain and strengthen their relations to their mutual benefit." A Foreign Ministry spokesman said the two delegations

had a broad exchange of views on bilateral and international topics.

It was Mr. Gromyko's first visit to India since the government of Prime Minister Morarji Desai came to power after the March election.

In an airport statement, Mr. Gromyko said that the Soviet Union would not allow its friendship with India to hinder the development of similar relations between India and other countries.

Observers interpreted this statement as a reference to remarks by Mr. Desai last March, when he said that India would not let the Indo-Soviet treaty come between its relations with other countries.

The treaty, valid for 20 years, forbids either country to enter into a military alliance directed against the other.

To reassure the USSR, the Indian government announced this weekend that it has no intention of abrogating the treaty. The statement was in reply to one by Mr. Subramaniam Swamy, a ruling Janata Party member of parliament, who last week called for the treaty to be torn up.

Mr. Gromyko will have a two-hour meeting tomorrow with Mr. Desai. He will also have two more working sessions with Mr. Vajpayee before returning home on Wednesday.

Observers believe the talks will cover the international situation and economic and scientific cooperation, particularly in the nuclear field.

India relies heavily on the Soviet Union for military equipment and the two countries are major trading partners. Indo-Soviet trade has grown by over 200 per cent since the early 1950s to around \$900 million, though the contentious issue of fixing a new exchange rate between the rupee and the rouble is still unresolved.

ETHIOPIA LASHES OUT AT KUWAIT

LONDON, April 25 (R). — Ethiopia today condemned what it said was a Kuwaiti government decision to support Eritrean secessionists in Ethiopia, Addis Ababa Radio reported. The radio, monitored here, quoted a spokesman for the Ministry of Information and National Guidance as saying Kuwait's reported announcement had come as no surprise. "(Kuwait) along with other Arab imperialist states... (has) been secretly aiding separatist element in Ethiopia," the spokesman said. The spokesman said Egypt and Sudan, had also been "plotting under the auspices of international imperialism to bring about the disintegration of Socialist Ethiopia."

Qadhafi was shot at, says Egyptian agency

CAIRO, April 25 (AFP). — Libyan head of state Muammar Qadhafi was the victim of an abortive assassination attempt last week, the Egyptian Middle East News Agency reported yesterday citing travellers back from Libya.

The agency said that a Libyan national shot Col. Qadhafi in the arm and then took his own life.

The agency also quoted the travellers as saying that anti-Qadhafi leaflets were being distributed in the Libyan coastal city of Benghazi following the alleged "execution of scores of young Libyans."

As a result, Col. Qadhafi called on loyalist troops to put down any eventual popular uprising, the Egyptian agency said.

Meanwhile, the Egyptian Al-Akhar daily newspaper, in its continuing campaign against Libya, said yesterday that Cuban troops had shown up in Tripoli, Benghazi and Tobruk.

The paper said that the Cuban soldiers took positions around key public buildings.

Is there a European policy on Africa?

PARIS, April 25 (AFP). — France's decision to provide logistic support to Zaire followed by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's pledge in Dakar last week to defend the security of African states have raised the issue of a concerted European policy towards Africa.

French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud stressed in London on April 18 during a ministerial meeting of the nine-member European Economic Community (EEC) that the French initiative in Zaire was a purely French decision not involving other EEC partners.

In Dakar, President Giscard d'Estaing said France recognised the right of African

countries to security and would "fulfil its commitments each time this proved necessary."

He said Africans and Europeans should "unite" to form a middle road between the two superpowers. But observers said President Giscard d'Estaing's statement probably referred to a broader European geographical entity rather than the EEC.

Nevertheless, the French action drew reservations from certain EEC members, Belgium particularly, whose Foreign Minister Renauld van der Linden did not trouble to hide his criticism of what he hinted was "meddling" in the affairs of the former Belgian colony.

Mr. Elenslaender qualified his statement explaining that his remarks did not refer only



EXPLOSION IN ISRAEL -- Israeli demolition experts look over the damage in the back of a bus after a bomb blast wounded 28 people on Sunday. The bomb exploded while the bus was in Beer Saba' in the southern desert. (AP wirephoto)

Ethiopia expels last Western journalists

ADDIS ABABA, April 25 (R). — The last three Western journalists operating in Ethiopia were today given 48 hours to leave the country after being accused of distortion and bias. The expulsion order against the representatives of Reuters, Agence France-Presse (AFP) and the Washington Post followed other government moves apparently aimed at clearing the way for closer relations with the Communist Bloc and new initiatives against secessionist forces in the Province of Eritrea.

The government accused the three correspondents of "distorting out of all proportions events in Ethiopia in general and the progress of the ongoing revolution of the broad masses in particular."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Information and National Guidance said the journalists "have been the main source of fallacious and totally biased dispatches used for the anti-Ethiopian propaganda" outside the country.

The three correspondents are Jeremy Toye, of Reuters, Laurent Chénard of AFP and David Ottaway, of the Washington Post.

The decision came after a weekend decision by the government to close down all consulates in Asmara, capital of Eritrea Province, and to shut down four U.S. government agencies operating here.

An American military mission which had long symbolised the U.S. position as Ethiopia's

chief arms supplier was shut down abruptly on Saturday, together with three other official U.S. organisations.

The foreign staffs of all the organisations concerned were given four days to leave the country. About 100 Americans and their families were affected, but the Eritrean Consulates, representing the United States, Sudan, Italy, France, Belgium and Britain, employed very few foreigners.

The four U.S. organisations closed were the United States Information Service, a naval research unit, a communications station in Asmara and the military assistance advisory group (MAAG).

Observers believed the presence of the MAAG might have been a potential obstacle to Ethiopia's efforts to form closer links with the Communist World, particularly for arms supplies. Ethiopia's increasingly

Marxist stance makes the S

viet Bloc a natural ally. The United States has been reconsidering its military commitment to Ethiopia in view of allegations that human rights have been violated here as was due to cut MAAG staff from 46 to about 25, inform sources said.

Some American officials suggested that MAAG had outlived its usefulness, and military in terms of grants has been gradually reduced.

But Ethiopia has continued to buy American military hardware, including eight F-56 jet fighter planes, although foreign exchange reserves over \$300 million, largely from high coffee prices, mean it can afford to shop around for arms.

Informed sources said Ethiopian soldiers were already training on more than 30 Soviet-built tanks recently shipped from Aden.

China treats Chairman Hua to Mao-like personality cult

PEKING, April 25 (R). — Chinese newspapers were yesterday filled with photographs of Chairman Hua Kuo-feng in a further promotion of the personality cult built around him since he succeeded the late Mao Tse-tung last October.

The Communist Party paper People's Daily published 16 pictures of the Chinese leader taken in the northern oil field of Tachang, where a national industrial conference is in session.

The Peking daily Guang Ming devoted almost its entire front page to pictorial coverage of Mr. Hua. Accompanying news items lauded him for "braving heavy snow and biting cold" to visit Tachang.

Mr. Hua, 56, was pictured in Mao-like poses greeting conference delegates, inspecting oil rigs and chatting with all-woman drilling teams.

Unlike some previous occasions, Mr. Hua did not share the spotlight with party Vice Chairman Yeh Chien-ying. Mr. Yeh is apparently not attending the long-awaited conference -- the biggest gathering

of its kind in the 27-year history of Communist China.

Five other Politburo members also appear to be taking no part in the event, but analysts said there were no clear political conclusions to draw from their absence.

Seven thousand delegates are attending the "Learn from Tachang Conference," most of them billeted in tents erected between derricks.

Tachang workers are all as a national model for the way they developed Manchurian wasteland into one of the country's richest oil fields despite harsh conditions.

Apart from laying down industrial guidelines, the conference is being used as a platform for further denunciation of the "rightist" line of radical leaders pure last October.

In the opening speech, Premier Li Hsien-nien called for "a new big leap forward" and asserted China could narrow the gap between the United States in several dozen years.

Chairman Hua is expected to address the conference which is scheduled to meet in Peking in its later stage.

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

* TEL AVIV, April 25 (AFP). — Israeli Foreign Minister Yigal Allon denied that resumption of diplomatic ties between Israel and the Soviet Union was in the offing at a cabinet meeting here yesterday. He said that there were no such indications from any Soviet Bloc countries either. Yesterday's cabinet meeting was the first chaired by acting Premier Shimon Peres following the resignation of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Mr. Allon also scoffed at reports that Austria and the Ivory Coast were acting as mediators to bring about mutual recognition between Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Mr. Allon said that the United States floated "a variety of ideas" aiming at a Mideast settlement but that Washington scrupulously avoided to press for any particular ideas, such as the controversial advance warning system, a tentative guarantee for Israel's security.

* KUWAIT, April 25 (AFP). — United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nahayan in a newspaper interview yesterday called for countries bordering the Gulf region to take a unified stand to defend their security. "The only possible guarantee of security in the Gulf is a unified position of its bordering countries while taking into account the interests of each," said the sheikh in an interview published yesterday by the Kuwaiti daily Al-Siyassah. "Until this unified position has been taken, it is best to allow the question of any further inquiry into Gulf security to remain frozen," the sheikh added.

* NUREMBERG, West Germany April 25 (R). — An armed Polish soldier held 61 West German tourists at gunpoint on a plane at Krakow Airport and tried to hijack their aircraft to Africa, the German travellers said here today. They said the would-be hijacker seized the two stewardesses of the Tupolev TU-134 charter plane of the Polish state airline LOT yesterday, but was overpowered by Polish militia. The plane's departure was delayed for six hours because of the incident, travellers said. The soldier, armed with a machine pistol, said he had just deserted his unit while on manoeuvres and wanted to hijack the plane to Africa, they added.

* DJIBOUTI, April 25 (R). — The list of candidates in the general elections due to take place in the Afars and Issas Territory (Djibouti) on May 8 which coincides with the referendum on independence was released here Saturday night. The list is composed of the leaders of the pro-Somali African Popular League for Independence (LPAI) as well as members of the Mogadishio-based Liberation Front of the Somali Coast (FLCS) but excludes the pro-Ethiopian National Union for Independence (UNI), the Popular Liberation Movement (MPL) and the Addis Ababa based Djibouti Liberation Movement (MLD).

NATO countries prepare common approach to forthcoming meet on European security in Belgrade

By Pierre Lemoine

BRUSSELS, April 25 (AFP). — Diplomats at the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) headquarters here are drawing up a common approach to the 1975 Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

They hope to finish by May 11, when the foreign ministers of the 15 NATO countries meet in London.

The 35-nation follow-up conference, spread over several months, is due to start on June 15 in Belgrade.

Reliable sources here say that the NATO delegates will put the accent on assessing the results of Helsinki, both positive and negative before looking forward to new goals.

The ideals of that conference were set out in three "baskets": Security in Europe, co-

operation in economic, scientific, technical and environmental spheres and cooperation in humanitarian and other fields.

Soviet dissidents have been most vociferous in emphasising the commitments under "Basket Three" of the 35 signatories to the final act, signed at the close of the Helsinki conference on Aug. 1, 1975.

But while NATO does not intend to agree that the conference should go further than Helsinki until all the aims of that conference have been achieved, delegates will try to avoid making Belgrade a tribunal for spotlighting the Socialist Bloc's record on human rights, the sources said.

Individual NATO members want to avoid a bloc-to-bloc confrontation at Belgrade.

In any case, the largest group (17 nations) includes neutral or non-aligned countries. Moreover, in the interests of

detente, NATO sources feel they should stress work yet to be done rather than the failings of some of the Helsinki declaration signers.

In addition, they point out, the initial phases of the Belgrade talks will be fairly low-level: Delegate heads are likely to be ad hoc ambassadors.

Before "serious" talks start around early October, a number of top-level contacts will have taken place, notably the visit to Western Europe of the Soviet Party Secretary General Leonid Brezhnev.

The second phase of Belgrade is likely to open about Oct. 3 the closing date sources say, will depend on the speed of progress.

The organisation of the conference is expected to mirror that of Helsinki's preparatory talks: Groups of experts for each "basket" linked through a steering committee.

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